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Providence, Aug. 2, 1874.

Dear Wife:

Yesterday I received a letter from Frank, enclosing a letter from Mr. Phillips to him, respecting the purchase of Nell's set of the Liberator by Caroline Weston, and approve of the printed notification to the donors of the Nell fund. Fanny's letter came afterward, with its note from Lizzie Stoddard and Mr. Sprague's criticism upon my Sumner photograph. As to the last, I think it is not of any weight, because it speaks of a "materialized form," and therefore amenable to the rules of art; whereas there was no materialization, (as may sometimes be seen at seances,) and nothing to be seen; and how a spirit may be able to take ~~to itself~~ to itself a shadowy appearance, not visible to the eye, and yet get impressed upon the plate, is beyond our present knowledge. Mr. S. speaks of Sumner's figure as defective in light and shadow; but these are sufficiently distinct to answer the purpose of recognition. He says

the broken chain on my breast would hang vertically by its own weight, and not diagonally as it is seen in the picture; but this is absurdly assuming that the spirit (if a spirit) was holding in his hand, at the time, literally an iron chain! Enough that the chain appears at all as a symbol of emancipation. Mr. S's conclusion, that "the picture is a transparent fraud," is so sweeping and self-sufficient as to indicate a foregone conclusion on his part not to admit the possibility of any such phenomenon. It must be remembered that he has no belief in a future state of existence. I shall not attempt to convince him that his criticism is not valid, but I will drop a note to Lizzie in reference to it.

Mrs. Currier, the medium, being with us, we are having daily at our meals (unsolicited and unexpected) rappings and violent agitations of the table, and emphatic responses to many of our questions. Yesterday my old friend Joshua Coffin was with us, and to-day dear Richard D. Webb. On being questioned if my picture

was genuine throughout, the response was strong in the affirmative. Yet Mrs. Currier has had no bias in favor of Mr. Mumler, but rather the reverse. The same thing was confirmed by our daughter Lizzie when I had a sitting with Mrs. Hardy. By the way, R. D. Webb promises to communicate with me, through Mrs. Hardy, at my next sitting with her. It will be a good test, as she will know nothing of the promise.

Yesterday forenoon I again had a delightful sail down the bay to Oakland Beach. It was next to being on Lake George. So I have already sailed sixty miles. On neither occasion did any of the crowd seem to recognize me, nor did I know any one.

I was intending to call at Charlotte's yesterday afternoon, but rain prevented. In the evening Henry called, and said he had just returned from Boston, but he had not time to go out to Roxbury. I inferred from his countenance that he found George in a sad condition, but asked no questions.

After taking my electrical treatment, I went to bed and passed the night comfortably, but to-day my leg is as stiff and my pains as sharp as ever.

This forenoon I called at Charlotte's, but found she had gone to church with Henry. It seems her knee trouble is so slight that even Miss Forbes knew nothing of it. Miss Forbes told me that she had been a sufferer from rheumatism for more than forty years! It is still with her, in spite of all attempts to find a remedy.

Tell Frank I wrote to Caroline Weston, telling her she could be Liberator.

I am pleased to hear of Anne Weston's arrival home, with Mrs. Dicey, and will send her a congratulatory letter.

I trust you had a very pleasant social time yesterday with your invited company.

Try to ride once a day while the weather holds good.

Love to all as ever.

Yours ever W. L. G.